

Message Text

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16

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 ACDA-19

GAC-01 IO-12 EA-11 RSR-01 OMB-01 /124 W

----- 091489

R 031000 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5842

USIA WASHDC

INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

UNCLAS BELGRADE 1393

USIA FOR IOR/ RIM

E. O. N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, YO, OGEN

SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION REPORT: US WITHDRAWAL FROM VIETNAM

1. YUGOSLAV PRESS WEEKEND MARCH 31- APRIL 1 CONTINUES
FOCUS ON US WITHDRAWAL FROM VIETNAM. BELGRADE DAILY BORBA
MARCH 31 INCLUDES REPORT FROM SE ASIAN CORRESPONDENT SLOBODAN
PAVLOVIC, WHICH NOTES US TROOP WITHDRAWAL BUT CITES HANOI CLAIM
THAT 20,000 US MILITARY ADVISORS REMAIN IN VN UNDER VARIOUS
CIVILIAN COVERS. REPORT EMPHASIZES TOTAL PRESENCE 200,000
MILITARY PERSONNEL IN " SURROUNDING BASES": THAILAND, PHILIPPINES,
SEVENTH FLEET, HAWAII, GUAM, TAIWAN, JAPAN, " TO BE TRANSPORTED AT
ANY MOMENT TO WHEREVER THEIR ASSISTANCE IS "" INDISPENSABLE'."

2. SAME DAY (MARCH 31) BORBA EDIT (BOGOJEVIC) ADDS ADDITIONAL
COMMENTARY ON US WITHDRAWAL, WHICH IS " FIRST AND MOST IMPORTANT
STEP" TO VN PEACE. AFTER NOTING FAILURE OF US ARMS IN WAR " AGAINST
PEOPLE FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM", EDIT CITES NIXON DECLARATION ON WITH-
DRAWAL AS APPARENT " NEW, POSITIVE COMMITMENT OF US" TO NON- INTER-
VENTION, AND ADDS HOPE THAT US OBLIGATION INCLUDES LIMITING SUP-
PORT TO " CHIEF OF SAIGON REGIME."

3. TANJUG BULLETIN MARCH 31 CARRIES REPORT THAT SOME 8,000

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AMERICANS REMAIN IN VN INCLUDING " MANY MILITARY EXPERTS WHO HELP
TO MAINTAIN MILITARY INSTALLATIONS AND EQUIPMENT TURNED OVER TO
SAIGON REGIME..." TANJUG ALSO NOTES FAILURE VN MILITARY COMMISSION,
" OPENLY SABOTAGED BY SAIGON REGIME", AND WARNS OF THREAT TO
UNSTABLE
VN CEASE- FIRE POSED BY US AIR ACTION IN CAMBODIA.

4. POLITIKA SUNDAY AND BORBA TODAY FRONT- PAGE HEADLINE ALLEGATION
CHIEF NORTH VIETNAMESE DELEGATION FOUR- PARTY COMMISSION THAT US,
SAIGON VIOLATED PARIS AGREEMENT.
TOON

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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